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THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

Region 3 Headquarters

Bozeman, Montana

406-994-4042

September 26, 2019

To whom it may concern,

A Decision Notice has been prepared to remove non-native trout from over 30 miles of Selway Creek, a stream within the Red Rock sub-basin, and its tributaries and restore an unaltered Westslope Cutthroat Trout (WCT) population. Non-native Brown, Brook and Rainbow x Cutthroat hybrid trout are present in Selway Creek. The proposed action is to use rotenone to remove non-native trout. Following non-native trout removal, WCT would be refounded by translocating aboriginal, genetically unaltered fish from up to eight populations in the Red Rock and Beaverhead sub-basins for up to five years. To provide angling opportunities while the population is being re-established, sterile triploid catchable-size WCT would be stocked in Selway Meadows for one to three years immediately following removal of non-native fish.

FWP received six letters of support from organizations and individuals during a 30-day comment period ending 9 September 2019. There was one comment in opposition from an individual who preferred brook trout. There were no attendees at a public meeting held in Dillon, MT on 3 September 2019.

Based on the Environmental Assessment and need to conserve Westslope Cutthroat Trout, it is my decision to proceed with the Selway Creek Westslope Cutthroat Trout conservation project.

I find there to be no significant impacts on the human and physical environments associated with this project. Therefore, I conclude that the Environmental Assessment is the appropriate level of analysis, and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Sincerely

Mark Deleray

Region 3 Supervisor